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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Sovereign of this Nation and Lord of our lives, in each period of history, You have blessed us with great leaders who have exemplified love for You and dedication to our country. Today we celebrate such a man. Thank You for Senator STROM THURMOND.

By Your providential care, on May 25, 1997, he became the longest serving Senator in our Nation's history. Yet, it is not just the quantity, but also the quality of these years service motivate our admiration. So today we join with all Americans in thanking You for his outstanding service to the Senate, to his beloved South Carolina and to the Nation.

Thank You for the enrichment of our lives by this man. He has shown us the courage of firm convictions, the patriotism of love for this Nation, and true commitment to the Senate. We praise You for the personal ways he has inspired each of us. He is an affirmer who spurs us on with words of encouragement. Your Spirit of caring and concern for individuals shines through this remarkable man.

Gracious God, may Senator THURMOND know of our affirmation, feel our love, and be encouraged by Your blessing. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JACK REED led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 25, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACK REED, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. REED thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. At 10:30 a.m., the Senate will vote on the Byrd amendment regarding firefighting and drought on the Interior Appropriations Act. If cloture is not invoked, there will be an immediate vote on cloture on the Lieberman substitute amendment to the Homeland Security Act. If cloture is not invoked on the Lieberman amendment, the Senate will remain on the Homeland Security Act, and Senator GRAMM will be recognized to offer an amendment.

Mr. President, I would also say the vote is scheduled at 10:30, and I have been asked by a number of Senators to keep it that way. There are important committee hearings going on and

which need to go on. So if there is a request to extend the time, if I am not on the floor, I would hope the Presiding Officer would object in his capacity as a Senator from the State of Rhode Island because it is important to keep the time for the vote at 10:30.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, and the time to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted 15 minutes, if necessary, to complete my remarks.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE ECONOMIC SECURITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I have spent many hours in the last few weeks looking at matters of national security.

As the Presiding Officer knows—he is also a member of that committee—the hearings we have held, thanks to our outstanding chairman, Senator LEVIN of Michigan, have been invaluable. I also thank the administration for providing us with briefings and meetings to give us the best possible understanding of the situation we face.

I also serve as a member of the Governmental Affairs Committee. I have

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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